

# GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 65, No. 26

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Training Expeditionary Airpower Experts*

June 30, 2006

## In Brief

### Snack bar closure

The Oasis Snack Bar at the Community Center will be temporarily closed until Wednesday for renovations.

The Pizza Pub will remain open 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday–Friday, 5–9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, and 5–10 p.m. Wednesday and Friday.

For more information on the Community Center call 283-2495.

### ADS CoC

Lt. Col. Sarady Tan will assume command of the 325th Aeromedical–Dental Squadron at 9 a.m. July 6 at the Officers' Club.

### AMXS CoC

Lt. Col. George Zaniwski, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Deborah Meserve 9 a.m. July 7 in Hangar 2.

## Inside

Members may get charged for ER visits ...

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Tyndall shelters endangered turtles ...

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Lockheed works on Alaska's first Raptor ...

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Chrissy Cullita

## They're here...

**Nearly 250 personnel from the 1st Fighter Wing are deployed here for four weeks while the Langley AFB, Va., runway is being renovated. Sixteen Raptors, along with pilots, maintenance, intelligence and communication personnel among others arrived Wednesday to complete training missions and participate in the Weapon System Evaluation Program from July 9-21.**

## Leaders hold key to AFSSO 21 success

**MASTER SGT. MITCH GETTLE**  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON (AFPN)**—A cornerstone of the secretary of the Air Force's tenure is Air Force Smart Operations 21. He recently said that Air Force leaders hold the key to success for the initiative.

"I have told our leaders that we cannot allow AFSSO 21 to escape the wing leadership, whether that is the wing commander, group or squadron commanders or command chief," said Michael Wynne, Secretary of the Air Force. "(Ownership of AFSSO21) has to stay in that cradle. This is the leverage that we need to make innovative Airmen feel comfortable bringing forward ideas that make their job easier."

Secretary Wynne believes where a leader spends his time is where a leader is really committed.

"Our command sections have to think about how much time they are spending on Smart Operations," he said. "If those leaders spend a fair amount of time on it, learning it themselves and learning it on behalf of their people, it will become an institutionalized event."

For AFSSO 21 to work, it is important that a good idea does not get stuck at the lower echelons. Every Airman should feel comfortable bringing an improvement idea to the command section as long as there is a rationale on whether it is a good thing to change, keep or get rid of, Secretary Wynne said.

"Sometimes people feel bound and constrained by their immediate work environment," Secretary Wynne said. "It will take command leadership to expand (those people's thought process) to see that

their environment impinges upon their suppliers and customers."

"This is all about making sure we get ideas from the people who are actually involved in a process to make the Air Force more efficient and effective," he said.

AFSSO 21 is not something that comes and goes. It will be with the Air Force for a long time, he said.

"Some of our segments have been using AFSSO 21 principles for a long time," Secretary Wynne said. "We are identifying different ways to do business by looking for continual process improvement. Cutting waste time is significant to improving processes."

He gave an example for cutting waste time by explaining the process for a staff summary sheet that must go from office to office or building to building.

"The waste time is in the fact that the paper sits in the inbox, not the fact that we had a diligent individual deliver it from office to office," he said. "There is no value added by rushing the paper from place to place if the paper just sits in the inbox."

"Finding process improvements takes time and not all things can be changed. Some processes have been put in place for good reasons like safety and continuity. But, the Air Force needs to reexamine some of its constraints to make sure they are still valid, he said.

"This means we also need to have a process to change (or rescind) Air Force instructions," Secretary Wynne said. "I know Air Force instructions are valid and I don't want to see them go away unless they are an impediment to good performance or are irrelevant today."



Chrissy Cuttita

### The newest Tyndall Idol

First place winner, Airman 1st Class David Justin Williams, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, sings to the judges during the Tyndall Idol competition Friday. Second place went to Master Sgt. Derrick Moore of the 325th Security Forces Squadron, and third went to Airman 1st Class Keenan Coleman of the 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

### Identify this ...



Can you identify this object? If so, send an e-mail to *editor@tyndall.af.mil* with "Identify this" in the subject line. Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to select the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office. No one correctly guessed the June 23 edition of "Identify this." Look out for the photo again in a future issue of *The Gulf Defender*.

## ON THE STREET

1st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron focus:

### What was your best temporary duty?



"I liked Portland, Ore. They put me up in a nice place and I got to see my first professional basketball game."

**TECH. SGT. DENNIS HARPER**  
F-15 assistant aircraft section chief



"Key West was my favorite because the atmosphere and people were great."

**SENIOR AIRMAN VICTORIA CANTRELL**  
Sortie support



"Victoria, Canada was the best. I like the scenery and the people."

**SENIOR AIRMAN THOMAS HAESSLY**  
Weapons Load Crew Chief



"Key West was my favorite because the jets didn't break."

**AIRMAN 1ST CLASS BRIAN ANGERS**  
Electro-environmental

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## COMMENTARY

## Air Force leaders send July 4 message

WASHINGTON (AFPN) *(Editor's note: The following is an Independence Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Moseley.)*

Happy Birthday, America! For 230 years, this nation and its people have represented freedom and democracy. We earned that reputation through courageous acts of patriotism by our founding fathers and through bravery on battlefields across the world. Today we mark not a resounding victory in a great battle, but instead the day when we stood up as a free and independent nation and told the world

we would no longer live under tyrannical rule.

This year, as you gather to celebrate the founding of our great nation, pause a moment to remember our heroes currently serving away from home, fighting to preserve the very same freedoms the patriots before us secured. Their efforts are helping us soar to a future bounded by limitless horizons.

You, the men and women of America's Air Force, reflect the generations of patriots who, through their actions, displayed the values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. Thank you for your unyielding commitment, and have a happy and safe holiday!

## More than backyard barbecues, day off

COL. TOD WOLTERS  
325th Fighter Wing commander

Ahh...the sights, sounds and smells of the Fourth of July – fireworks filling the skies overhead, children playing on the beach, hamburgers and hot dogs grilling on the backyard barbecue. I know these are some of my favorite parts of the holiday, and each year I look forward to it.

As we gear up for this long four-day weekend today, I want to encourage everyone to enjoy and partake in all that the time off has to offer, especially here in the Florida panhandle.

But it's important that we keep something in mind as we sit outside this weekend enjoying time off with our families and friends. This holiday is about more than just a day off, backyard barbecues, pool parties, or trips to the beach.

It's about our independence. It's about the freedoms and liberties we enjoy each and every day. It's about democracy. It's about patriotism. It's about everything that makes America the greatest and most envied nation on the planet.

As members of the military, whether you are active duty, guard or reserve, a



Courtesy photo

**Military members convoy through the streets of Iraq. Members are reminded to keep in mind those sacrificing for freedom this holiday weekend.**

family member, a government civilian, a veteran or retiree, we all share a great love for our country, and we cherish what the United States stands for – here at home and also abroad. Currently, we have several hundred members of our wing deployed to various parts around the world, fighting for freedom, demonstrating the core value of Service Before Self, and carrying the torch of our forefathers in the name of independence.

I am extremely proud of each and every one of you

who has chosen the vocation of military service, and I know the citizens of our nation thank you as well. I ask you on this Fourth of July holiday to remember those who have gone before us fighting for our independence, for those who are currently waging the fight in every corner of the globe, and for those who will come after us in the name of freedom.

Enjoy the time off, and make it a safe and happy Fourth of July. We'll see you back to work on Wednesday!



**AADD Phone Number:**  
867-0220

**Hours of Operation:**  
5 p.m. to 5 a.m.

**Extended Holiday Weekend:**  
Friday - Monday

### Action Line

Call 283-2255



COL. TOD WOLTERS  
325th Fighter Wing commander

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers.

If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the problem,

call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General's Office, 283-4646.

Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Below are more phone numbers that help you in resolving any issues with a base agency.

**Commissary** 283-4825  
**Pass and I.D.** 283-4191  
**Medical and Dental** 283-7515  
**MEO** 283-2739

**MPF** 283-2276  
**SFS Desk Sgt.** 283-2254  
**Services** 283-2501  
**Legal** 283-4681  
**Housing** 283-2036  
**CDC** 283-4747  
**Wing Safety** 283-4231  
**ADC** 283-2911  
**Finance** 283-4117  
**Civil Engineer** 283-4949  
**Civilian Personnel** 283-3203  
**Base Information** 283-1113

Thank you for helping me improve Tyndall and I look forward to hearing from you.

## Taking care of our own – one cat's tale

**MASTER SGT. BILLIE HAYDEN**  
53rd Weapons Evaluation Group

Last week a friend expressed an interest in adopting a pet. I thought, "How exciting! I get to help someone discover the joys of pet ownership!"

I asked her to go to the Humane Society with me, where hundreds of cats, dogs, and other animals sit in kennels waiting for a loving human to rescue them.

As we walked into the shelter that day, the sights, sounds, and smells assaulted our senses and were overwhelming.

I saw a beautiful Siamese adult cat in quarantine with a nasty wound on her left hip. I asked if I could adopt her and assured the staff I would seek vet care and tend to her injury. Thirty minutes after walking into the shelter, we were walking out again with a new pet *in my arms*. My friend was still pet-less and I was thinking it wasn't supposed to happen this way!

Siamese cats are unique, vocal, affectionate and possessive with their humans. These qualities earned my new cat the name "Diva." I bought her a cute diamond studded collar with name tag (to suit her namesake) and took her to a veterinarian downtown.

While I was there, I also had her scanned for a microchip under her skin. It turns out that she did have one from a previous owner. My heart sank.

"Somebody loves this cat and had lost her somehow," I thought.

The owner's address and phone number wasn't updated on the microchip. Most people would have stopped searching right there, and technically, I adopted this beautiful cat and legally she was mine. The microchip company said they thought the previous owner was connected with the military and gave me the family name but had no other information.

What should I do? If I had lost her, I would be heartbroken.

It was a moment to decide what the best course of action would be for my new companion. I knew that if someone was missing their pet I should do whatever I could to help them find it. More importantly, when I found out it was a military member who was separated

from his four-legged family member, I had to help. It is all about military taking care of military, and also about a word we hear so often -- integrity. We have to take care of our own.

So, I called the base veterinary treatment facility and told them the story. They confirmed the owner was stationed at Tyndall and had a Siamese cat. I left my phone number and the vet said they would contact the family.

I had Diva for eight days, her wound was almost healed and she settled nicely into my home. I almost began to forget my quest to find the previous owner.

Then my phone rang.

"I'm calling about my cat, Ellie," the caller said. "Do you have her?"

Before giving her up so easily, I insisted on knowing all the details. It turns out this military family loves Diva (I mean Ellie) and have been sick with worry about her. They have three daughters ages eight, six and two. Three weeks ago, one of the daughters left the door open and Ellie slipped out. They searched all over for her with no luck and hoped she would find her way back home.

Yes, they *really* wanted her back. I told the father they could have her back under one condition -- update her microchip and promise to keep a collar with name tag on her. He eagerly agreed.

That day my eyeballs were stinging with held back tears as I watched a happy reunion with the father and Ellie.

It was hard for me to give her up, but I know it was the right thing to do. That is what we are asked to do as Airmen daily, the right thing even when no one is looking.

The bottom line is; get a collar with name tag and phone number and a current microchip for your pets. Luck, fate or destiny worked out in Ellie's favor.

If you have a pet, your pet may not be so lucky. The ending of this story could have been much different for Ellie, but this story has a happy ending. She had her military family looking out for her.

*(Editor's note: The Tyndall Veterinarian Clinic performs microchipping on domestic pets. For more information, call 283-2434/4038.)*



### Congratulations to Tyndall's newest lieutenant colonels

Kevin Boerma,  
325th AMDS  
Donald Clocksin,  
325th CPTS  
Eric North,  
325th MOS  
Lance Pilch,  
325th OSS  
Victor Fehrenbach,  
AFELM JT FLY TRNG GP  
Ann Birchard,  
823rd RHS  
Joseph Gilley,  
81st RCS

# Associate unit engineer wins DOD award

**SENIOR AIRMAN SAMUEL KING JR.**  
53rd Wing Public Affairs

Cost savings and modernization, in a time of “Smart Ops” and cyberspace, the people with the ideas to accomplish both those things become a valuable asset.

That’s the case of Maj. Raul Parra Jr., 28th Test and Evaluation Squadron/Det. 2, who won the DoD Value Engineering Individual Award last month. Major Parra, the director of operations for the Integrated Avionics Test Facility at Tyndall AFB, said he hasn’t fully grasped the achievement yet.

“Of course I’m excited – it was very unexpected,” the major said. “I haven’t taken it in yet though, we’ve been so busy.” Major Parra said the most meaningful accomplishment he was involved in was garnering \$3 million from the Productivity Enhancing Capital Investment program.

“In years past, we’ve struggled to get better equipment, but creating those value engineering packages to earn the

PECI funds means further improvements we’re able to provide the warfighters and reduce cost savings to the Air Force,” said Major Parra, who was also named Air Combat Command’s Outstanding Mid-Career Military Engineer for 2004. He added that those improvements will help the IATF produce better controlled results and further supplement more complex missions.

The major said he is humbled by his fellow professionals at the IATF and dedicated the award to them.

“None of this would have been possible without the 54 other men and women at the facility and their dedication, integrity and hard work,” he said. “This is a great opportunity to talk about these quality folks.”

In his letter announcing Major Parra’s award, Lt. Gen. William Fraser III, ACC vice commander, showed appreciation for his efforts.

“I laud his hard work reducing the costs associated with our modernization efforts.”



Courtesy photo

**Maj. Raul Parra received the Department of Defense Value Engineering Individual Award during a formal presentation ceremony in the Pentagon. He was the Air Force’s only nominee in 2006. Team and individual award winner attendees were Army, Navy, Air Force, Defense Logistics Agency, Missile Defense Agency, Defense Contract Management Agency and Defense Intelligence Agency. The 28th TSS/Det. 2 is a Tyndall tenant organization, under the 53rd Wing at Eglin AFB, Fla.**

# Emergency room visits may cost members money

**CAPT. ERIN VANDERWALL**  
325th Medical Group marketing

If members visit the emergency room without proper cause, they now may have to foot the bill.

ER visits are for true emergencies such as the possibility of loss of life, loss of limb, loss of eye sight, severe pain, fractures, head trauma, and children with significant fever. No beneficiary in an emergency situation needs to contact their Primary Care Manager prior to calling 911 for an ambulance or proceeding to the ER.

If unsure about going to the ER, call the clinic at 283-2778 to ask someone from the PCM team or the on-call provider (after clinic hours) to discuss symptoms and conditions. They will help determine if the ER is the appropriate level of care required.

It is important to know that some legitimate ER visits may be coded as a non-emergency. An example would be visiting the ER for chest pains, and discovering the pain was caused by heartburn. The patient will receive a bill as a result. Take the bill to the Tricare Service Center within 30 days to appeal based on the Prudent Layperson Standard. This standard determines if

the situation would have caused other reasonable adults to think that this was a risk to life, limb, or eyesight, then Humana Military Health Services will override the non-emergency codes and reprocess the bill as an emergency. The Tricare Service Center is located by the main pharmacy on the first floor of the clinic.

Beneficiaries should note that non-legitimate ER visits for things such as birth control refills or minor illness that could wait until the next duty day or would more appropriately be seen in an urgent care center may not be accepted during an appeal.

If Humana determines that the ER visit was not appropriate using the Prudent Layperson Standard, the sponsor may be financially responsible for point of service charges incurred for that visit. If patients do not need an ambulance, but are unsure if about going to the ER, he or she should talk to the PCM team or the on-call provider for advice.

Follow-up visits after a discharge from the ER or hospitalization, urgent care center visits, or recommendations from a current specialist to seek additional specialty care all require



Courtesy photo

## A patient is rushed through a hospital hallway.

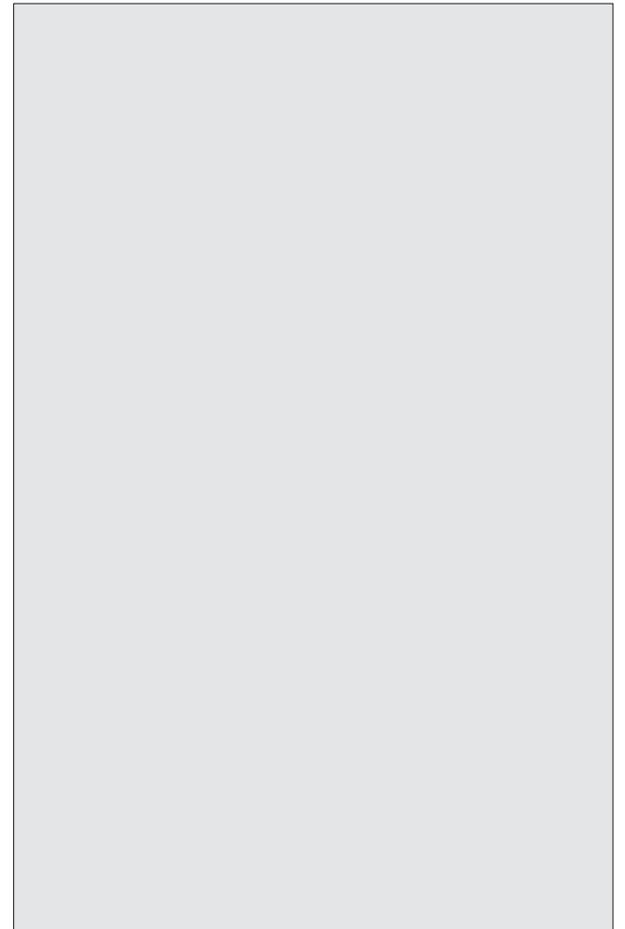
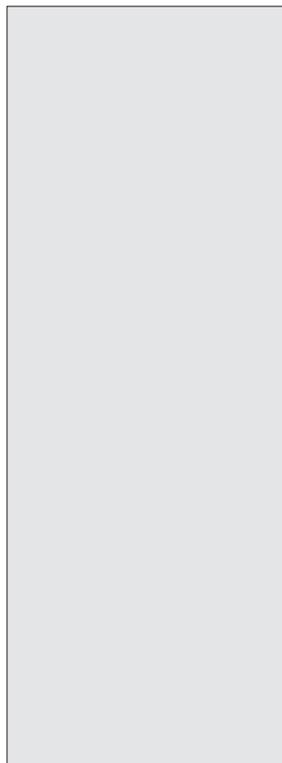
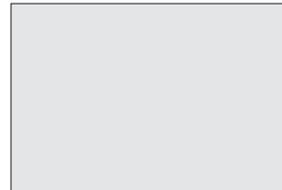
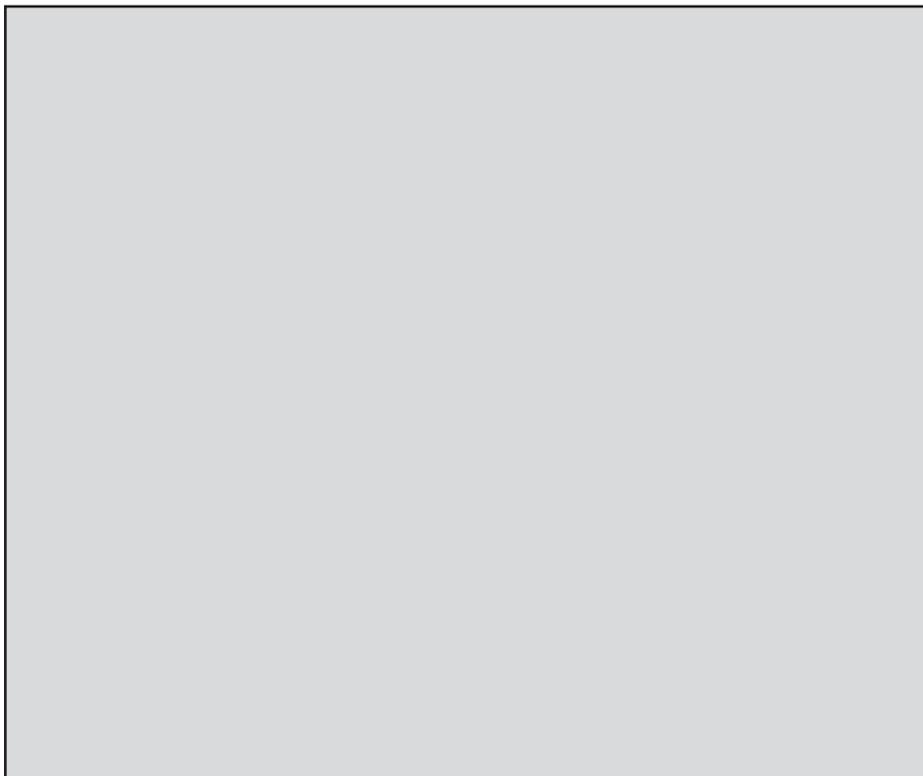
prior authorization. Call the clinic prior to obtaining these services, and a health care provider will advise you and set up the necessary referrals. If chosen not to follow this plan of care, point of service charges may apply to unauthorized care received outside of the Military Treatment Facility.

Active duty members are required to receive authorization for all care received outside of the MTF. Active Duty ER retroactive authorizations can be obtained by calling the clinic after

your situation stabilizes, regardless of the diagnosis.

All active duty patients receiving bills for any type of care should visit the Tricare Operations and Patient Administration flight on the third floor of the 325th Medical Group or call 283-7331 for assistance.

For more information on this policy or other benefit issues, visit the Tricare Service Center located next to the main clinic pharmacy, or the TOPA flight on the third floor of the main clinic.



## Preparing and repairing:

# *Be ready for the next storm*

With hurricane season here, there are many things to prepare for in an emergency. Here are a few tips on how to keep homes at minimal damage.

### **Before the Storm:**

- **Check windows, doors and skylights:** Securing all windows, doors and skylights is a critical step to ensure a properly sealed building envelope. Keep all entry points covered tightly to prevent storm winds from entering by installing protective hurricane shutters or other coverings that meet local building code requirements.

- **Screened enclosures:** Inspect the cross braces, fasteners and clips that hold the enclosure's framing and screening in place. If a storm is coming, remove a six-foot-wide panel on each side of the enclosure to allow wind to pass. This will help reduce pressure on the entire structure.

- **Yard debris:** Prior to any storm, be sure to move any outdoor furniture, equipment or yard debris into a secure place that is protected from high winds. These items, including trash cans and landscaping materials, can easily become dangerous projectiles when picked up by severe storm winds.

- **Porches:** Porches often have weaker roofs than the main structure of a house, which makes them more susceptible to storm damage. A porch's roof and floor may be reinforced by bolting them to the exterior wall of the house.

- **Insurance:** Photograph or videotape homes and personal property. Doing so provides a visual identity preceding any possible damage that may result in an insurance claim.

- **Electric & Gas:** It's wise to turn off the home's main electric breaker, water valve and gas valve to prepare for many storm situations. Doing so could help minimize a home's damage if problems with the utilities were to occur. Breakers and valves should also be shut off even if the home is being evacuated.

- **Flooding:** All valuables located in the home's basement or ground floor should be elevated or moved to a higher location to help protect them from possible storm flooding.

### **After The Storm:**

- **Assess roof damage:** The roof is a critical, yet extremely vulnerable component to any home. After the storm passes, remain on ground level and use binoculars to examine the roof for areas where shingles may have blown off. Do not go up on the roof to check for damage, as bad storms may weaken the roof's ability to bear weight.

- **Water damage:** Roofs that aren't protected by a water-repellent membrane, or underlayment, can increase a home's susceptibility to major water damage. Check the attic, ceiling and all walls for visible water stains, which are indicators of larger problems that may be looming.

- **Major roof damage:** Hire a licensed, professional roofing contractor for major re-roof construction. Don't gamble on the next major storm. Demand that the contractor use a premium water-repellent underlayment membrane, for maximum roof protection.

- **Roof education:** Don't be intimidated by roofing contractors when it comes to the safety of your home's roof. Educate yourself on how to detect roofing problems.

*(Compiled by the  
325th Fighter Wing  
public affairs)*



**The Gulf Defender is published for people like Airman 1st Class Otis Latson, 325th Medical Operations Squadron medical technician.**



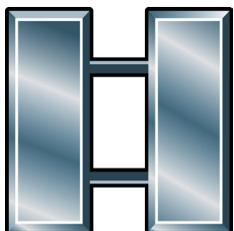


Courtesy photo

## Alaska to see Raptors

Raptor 4087, the first F-22 scheduled for delivery to Elmendorf AFB, Alaska's 90th Fighter Squadron, was recently moved from the forward fuselage line into the major mate fixture location at Lockheed Martin's Marietta, Ga., production facility. The vertical tail sections will be attached this summer, and it is scheduled to roll out of the production line in October 2006.

## Congratulations to Tyndall's newest captain select



1st. Lt. Steven Fox,  
325th MDSS

## Troop support, by the numbers

**DALLAS** – One look at the data and it's easy to see that summer, particularly Fourth of July, is a time for Americans to celebrate how fortunate we are as a nation and enjoy numerous parades, picnics, fireworks and backyard barbecues.

In fact, according to the U.S. Census bureau, 150 million hot dogs are expected to be consumed on Independence Day alone.

While folks back home enjoy a person-to-frankfurter ratio of one dog for every two revelers, troops deployed halfway around the world and their families back home will be marking some significant milestones of their own:

- **122** – Iraq's average high temperature in July
- **5** – Average number of dust storms expected in Baghdad in July
- **70+** – Pounds of gear troops typically carry on patrol in contingency locations
- **12 million** - Expected number of minutes troops deployed to Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom will spend on the phone in July

"As any deployed service member can tell you, most locations where America's military are called to serve can hardly be described as 'garden spots'" said the Army and Air Force Exchange Service's Senior Enlisted Advisor Chief Master Sgt. Bryan Eaton. "In such austere and often harsh environments, something as simple as a phone call home has the ability, however briefly, to transport troops from the war zone to a comfort zone."

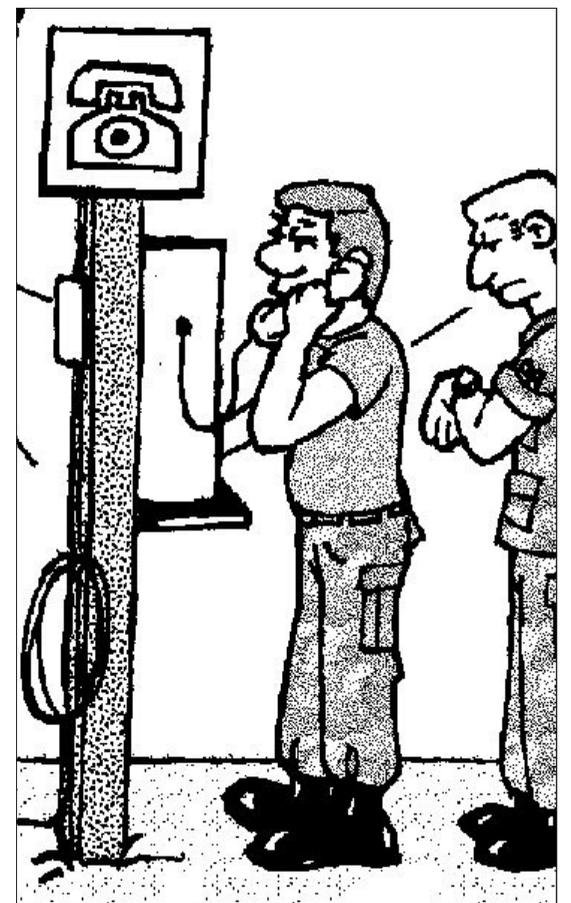
Short of rain or an air conditioner, a Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone card is the one of the most commonly requested items in the contingency theater. The toll-free number for those wishing to send tangible support to deployed Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors or Marines far from home is 800-527-2345. By calling this number or logging on to [www.aafes.org](http://www.aafes.org), any American can send a phone card designed spe-

cifically for the unique needs of deployed troops.

The 550-unit Military Exchange Global Prepaid card, for example, offers deployed servicemen and women the best value when calling back to the U.S. from Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait for as low as 19 cents per minute. The AAFES telecommunication support program, dubbed "Help Our Troops Call Home," makes it easy and affordable for anyone, even those without military affiliation, to leverage this exclusive calling platform on behalf of deployed American troops through 50 phone centers in Iraq, 14 in Kuwait and 3 in Afghanistan.

Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone cards sent through "Help Our Troops Call Home" can be earmarked for individual service members (designated by the purchaser) or distributed to "any service member" through the Air Force Aid Society, American Red Cross, Fisher House Foundation, Navy-Marine Corps Relief, United Service Organization, and Soldier & Family Assistance Center. Additional information about AAFES and "Help Our Troops Call Home" is available at [www.aafes.org](http://www.aafes.org) or (800) 527-2345.

*(Courtesy of AAFES)*



# Intelligence students critical to Air Force mission success



Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga

**Capt. Benjamin Gardner, 366th Operations Support Squadron, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, and Airman 1st Class Jeremiah Howe, 67th Fighter Squadron, Kadena AB, Japan, research aircraft information for a future intelligence brief.**

**STAFF SGT. STACEY HAGA**  
325th Fighter Wing public affairs

The knowledge of known threats in an area is crucial in order for a pilot to be able to complete his or her mission successfully.

Tyndall is where intelligence personnel receive F-15 Eagle-specific training. The four-week course is in addition to the general intelligence information taught at Goodfellow AFB, Texas.

Here, students learn how to give Eagle drivers a clear picture of the battlefield, what threats they are up against, and how their aircraft compare to the adversary's. It is their job to take large amounts of data from various sources, determine the threats and condense it into an infor-

mative briefing for a pilot to understand what he may face during a mission.

Pilots are mandated to be briefed on a predetermined number of threats each year. These briefings may cover, ground threats, aircraft, weapons, or adversary countries and their activities.

"One way we inform a pilot about potential threats is the 'threat of the day' briefing," said Staff Sgt. Ramon Martinez, 325th Operations Support Squadron Intelligence Flight Training Unit NCO in charge and instructor. "The briefings discuss different weapon systems that could theoretically shoot the pilots down, and the students (will eventually) give about six threat briefings a day at their home units."

Although a significant amount of intelligence work is done before the pilot takes off, they also have to debrief pilots after landing to learn what happened during a mission, he said.

"We need to know of any threats the pilots faced and if they were shot at," said Sergeant Martinez. "This information helps us build quality reports to send up through the leadership, which is used to decide if a mission was successful or if changes are necessary for future missions."

To effectively prepare students for debriefings and other operational duties, the instructors designed the course to combine enlisted members and officers in one class where they learn the same tasks. The goal of this environment is to foster teamwork between the ranks to get the job done efficiently and successfully.

"In the intelligence profession, individuals have to work together, whether they are enlisted or officer, and that's what we teach here," said Sergeant Martinez. "The class is given assignments that are due within a few hours, and we evaluate how well they work together."

The assignments will start off with the students learning specific systems of the Eagle and then they will research that system on an adversary's aircraft. They will then work up to comparing the capabilities of the Eagle to another jet and give briefings based on their findings.

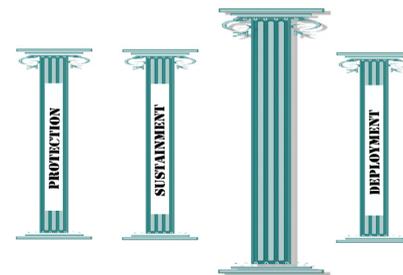
Some other tasks they face in training are learning to decipher intelligence messages, determine what needs to be briefed, writing reports, and proper debriefing procedures.

The teamwork experience and the advanced systems knowledge help the students understand the capabilities of the Eagle and its threats, which will benefit the students when they put their newly learned knowledge to the test at their home installations.

"While I am here, I hope to learn how the pilot employs the F-15 Eagle, so I know how they use it and will be able to assist them better. Without (intelligence support,) the pilot would not have the same threat knowledge they have now," said Airman 1st Class Jeremiah Howe a student from the 67th Fighter Squadron, Kadena AB, Japan.

Overall, the continued training of intelligence personnel is necessary to effectively prepare a pilot for any threat he may face to maintain the perfect kill ratio the Eagle boasts.

## FORCE TRAINING



### Training Spotlight



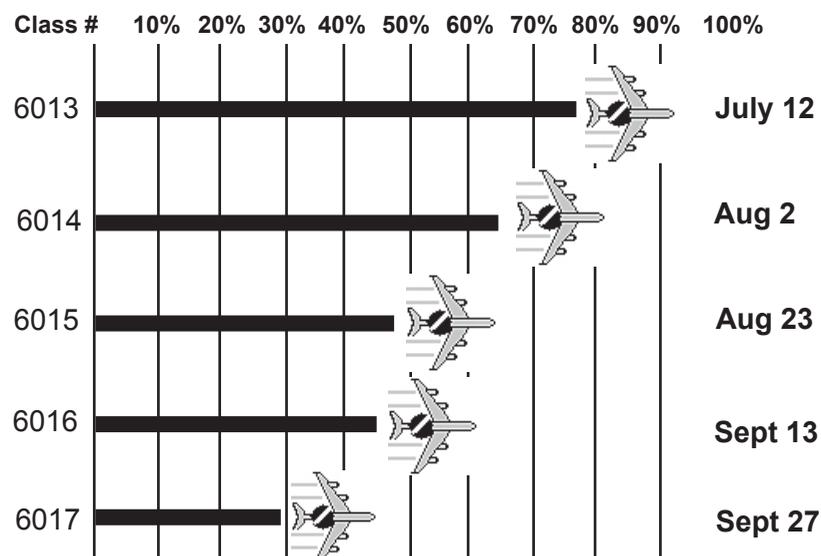
**How will your training here help you in your first operational duty assignment?**

"I get the knowledge I need to do my job. They teach me the basics, like post flight inspection that is done after an aircraft's last flight of the day so we keep it and its pilot safe."

**AIRMAN 1ST CLASS  
TREVOR STINSON**  
372nd Training Squadron/Det. 4  
Mission Ready Airman

### Air Battle Manager

Progress chart





Courtesy photos

A female Loggerhead turtle lays her eggs on one of Tyndall's beaches. The average size of a clutch is 110-120 eggs. The turtle will throw sand over her eggs to cover them before heading back to the ocean.

## Turtle power: *Endangered species fights to survive*

**STAFF SGT. STACEY HAGA**  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

They break through their shell and the white sand immediately surrounds them.

Their small flippers flap against each other and the gritty surroundings as they fight to reach the surface.

They have a one mission that echoes through their entire body. Get to the water and swim out to sea!

Shortly following this process of their birth, many of these baby sea turtles will not reach their salty destination and the ones that do, may not live long enough to return to the sandy beaches where they were born.

"Out of every 1,000 eggs that are laid, maybe one turtle may make it to adulthood," said Dr. Jack Mobley, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron Natural Resources wildlife biologist.

Why do these turtles have it so tough?

Part of the reason is nature, but the other is humans.

There is not much that Natural Resources can do about nature taking its course, but they try to limit the effects humans have on the hatching process.

From mid-May until the beginning of October, sea turtles like the loggerback and the occasional leatherback or green sea turtle, will come onto Tyndall's beaches to lay their eggs.

Each season is different, but the natural resources team stays persistent in checking the 17.7 miles of beach every day of the season and spot checking for early clutches (nests) prior to the season starting, said Mr. Mobley.

"We go out and look for turtle tracks and nests early each morning and make sure the nests are safe," said Donald Jenkins, Natural Resources conservation officer.

"We expect 50 - 70 clutches each season, but we have had as many as 99 in the past," said Dr. Mobley.

This year has been off to a slow start, with 18 clutches so far, but that doesn't necessarily mean there will

be less than the average clutches this year. The season is very rough to predict, he explains.

Even the incubation period for the egg is hard to predict.

"Most hatch 60 days after they are laid, but warmer weather could make them develop quicker," said Dr. Mobley. "Ours averages a little longer at 62-63 days."

Natural resources will check the clutches after the eruption of turtles hatch and assist any of the turtles that were unable to get out of the nest.

But even in the incubation period buried under the sand, many threats oppose them.

Predators, like coyotes, love to eat the eggs before they hatch, tides may wash away a nest that is too close to the water, people may damage the nests and eggs by stepping on them or disturbing the eggs.

To help lessen the dangers, Natural Resources will move nests, if needed, further away from the water and put a screen over the nest to keep the pred-

ators and people out of the nest.

When the turtles do hatch, they can get out of the screen and head towards their home by light of the moon, but it is very easy for the turtle to get confused by other bright lights coming from inland.

To help in this matter, Natural Resources will limit the amount of light near the beach by changing the lights, shielding them, or removing them if able.

"Anything we can do to increase their chance of survival while on the beach, we do," said Dr. Mobley.

Persons visiting the Tyndall beach can also help the livelihood of these small creatures.

"If you come across what you think is a track, stay away from it, and contact Natural Resources" said Mr. Jenkins. "Also, contact us immediately if you come across a turtle that is injured or dead."

For more information or to make a report, contact Natural Resources at 283-2641.



An eruption takes place when the majority of the sea turtles in a clutch hatch at the same time and make their way to the ocean.



Pictured here is a turtle egg from a nest on the Gulf Coast.



Will Holmes, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron wildlife technician, exercises caution as he transfers eggs to a safer location on the beach. Natural Resources moves the eggs from nests that are in danger of a washover within 12 hours of the eggs being laid to avoid harming them.

## How we can help the sea turtles

- Do not bring pets on the beach.
- Minimize lighting near the beach between the months of June and October.
- Remove recreational equipment from the beach at night.
- Do not have campfires on the beach.
- Properly dispose of trash.
- Use your natural vision or moonlight when walking on the beach at night.
- If you see a turtle, keep a distance, refrain from flash photography and contact Natural Resources.
- Do not walk on the dunes or trample vegetation.
- If you see turtle tracks, do not step on them and alert Natural Resources

## Briefs

**Commissary hours**

The Commissary will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Fourth of July.

**School physicals offered**

School and sport physicals are by appointment only at Tyndall. Call the appointment line 283-2778 to schedule. If a child's medical record does not reside at the Tyndall clinic, the child must bring a copy to the appointment, or reschedule. Families with records in transit due to PCS are exempt from this rule and will receive a review upon the record's arrival.

Any child who is new to Bay County schools needs a physical within 30 days of entry into school. Any child who will be playing sports for the Tyndall Youth Center, Bay County Middle or High Schools needs a current physical (past 12 months). In both cases, the provider may be able to sign the forms without a physical exam if the parent can show proof of a wellness visit or physical in the past 12 months, and the child has no change in their health status.

**Base lawn watering schedule**

The following is the lawn watering schedule for military family housing.

**Base Housing:**

Redfish Point, Shoal Point, Bay View, Wood Manor, and Felix Lake - Odd-numbered buildings may run sprinklers Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

The even-numbered buildings may run sprinklers Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

The times sprinklers may run from 6:30-8:30 a.m. if they are manual systems and 6:30-8 p.m. if they are automatic systems.

**Other than base-housing**

Odd-numbered buildings on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Even-numbered buildings on Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

Manual systems are allowed from 7-9 a.m. Automatic systems are allowed from 8-10 p.m.

No more than 30 minutes per zone.

**Education Center news**

The Gulf Coast Community College office will be open and classes



2nd Lt. Matthew Perry

**Reading adventures**

**Christa Bowman, 6, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Chester Bowman, is working on sand art at the Tyndall Library, which is hosting a summer reading program 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. every Wednesday until Aug. 2. During the Reading Adventure Program, Children ages 6-16 read stories, engage in activities, conduct Web quests and learn about the library. For more information, call the Library at 283-4287.**

will be held Monday. They will be closed July 4 for the holiday.

The next placement test to be held at the Tyndall Center will be given at 1 p.m. Wednesday. The cost is \$4 and due to limited space, students should sign up early.

GCCC is now accepting applications for a Military Scholarship. For information about the scholarship, stop by Room 45-A in the education office or call 283-4332.

**Scholarship news**

GCCC Tyndall Center is now accepting applications for the Military Scholarship. The deadline is July 31.

Tuition Assistance for the Fall Term can be obtained as of July 16.

Active duty members must print the tuition assistance form and bring it by the GCCC Tyndall office or fax it to 872-3836.

For more information stop by room 45-A of the education office or call 283-4332.

**Dining facility limitations**

Due to limited space and increased temporary duty commitments, the

facility will be limited to meal-card holders, on-duty security police (weapons carrying), firemen and temporary duty personnel during lunch meal until Aug. 1. From June 19 to Aug. 1, the Eagle Quick Turn (flight kitchen) will be limited to personnel with flight line badges for all meals.

**Send gifts through AAFES**

This Tuesday, any American can leverage AAFES' supply chain on behalf of deployed troops through the "Gifts from the Homefront" program. Started in March 2003, this troop support campaign allows anyone to make a direct and tangible contribution to military morale with a gift certificate that can be redeemed for nearly anything that a specific service member wants.

"Gifts from the Homefront" can be sent to troops deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere overseas or away from home this Independence Day by logging on to [www.aafes.org](http://www.aafes.org) or calling 877-770-4438. From there, "Gifts from the Homefront" are sent to individual service members.

**Catholic services**

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m.  
Monday-Friday,  
Chapel Two  
Reconciliation, before Saturday  
Mass or by appointment  
Saturday Mass, 5 p.m.,  
Chapel Two  
Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m.,  
Chapel Two  
Religious Education, 11 a.m.,  
Bldg. 1476

**Protestant services**

Traditional worship service,  
9:30 a.m., Chapel One  
Contemporary worship  
service, 11 a.m., Chapel Two  
Wednesday Fellowship,  
5 p.m., Chapel Two

**(For more information on other services in the local area, call the Chaplain's office at 283-2925.)**

# Tyndall offers charters, fishing from Marina

**STAFF SGT. STACEY HAGA**  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime.

Give a man a charter boat for deep sea fishing and he may have more fish than he knows what to do with.

Fortunately, for Tyndall Airmen and their families, charter services are now conveniently located on base at Beacon Beach Marina.

Gulf Pro Charters came to the marina in April and offers fishing excursions, sunset cruises and special event excursions for those with access to Tyndall. The owner of the charter wanted to offer the Tyndall community this service at competitive rates.

"I am active duty and about to retire. Staying a part of the military community is enjoyable. As a military member, I know that getting a good deal and having a great time is important, especially with the work schedules and operations tempo," said Master Sgt. John Wolfe, 325th Maintenance Squadron F-15 phase production supervisor, who is the owner and operator of Gulf Pro Charters.

The charter specializes in an eight to 10 hour

fishing excursion for up to six people and will go up to 50 miles offshore in the 32-foot Twin Vee catamaran.

"The boat is very fast compared to most charter boats (due to its twin-hull design). Being fast

snapper, amberjack, king mackerel, triggerfish and shark. The seasonal and occasional catches include tuna, mahi-mahi and wahoo," said Sergeant Wolfe. "On an average day we return with 300 to 400 pounds of fish."



Courtesy photos

**Gulf Pro Charters cruises out to sea from Beacon Beach Marina.**

allows us to get to the fishing area quickly and return quickly, which allows more time for fishing," he said.

"The fish we consistently encounter are Grouper,

The day of fishing starts early with a safety brief at 5:15 a.m. at the marina. The charter then leaves about 6 a.m.

Even the trip out to the fishing site offers entertainment for the fishermen.

"We stop outside the pass to catch live bait. It's highly competitive among customers with a contest to see who can catch the most bait on one cast (there are six hooks on each rod)," he said.

After 30 minutes to an hour of bait fishing, the charter heads 40 to 50 miles offshore.

"Once offshore we use a variety of techniques: trolling, drifting, bottom fishing and fly-lining ... what ever conditions dictate," said Sergeant Wolfe. "We change spots a few times throughout the day to get a variety of fish."

"They're fantastic," said Shawn Davis, 325th Maintenance Group contractor,

who recently caught a world record grouper with Gulf Pro charters. "They're real friendly. I can't imagine going out with anybody else, really. I've tried a bunch of different boats, but once I found these guys I won't go anywhere else."

Anyone, regardless of their fishing skill level can go on the charter. Captain of the charter, P.J. Sykes and Sergeant Wolfe are both experienced fishermen who enjoy getting beginners hooked on fishing. The long-time friends assist the fishermen on the boat and provide all the equipment, licenses and advice needed.

"We love to fish and really enjoy taking people out whether it's a first-timer or a seasoned fisherman. We like getting them 'hooked up' on some nice fish," said Sergeant Wolfe. "We thrive on chaos, multiple fish coming in at the same time. It's a lot of fun."

But for those who prefer to relax and enjoy the beautiful scenery of the emerald coast, the charter has a sunset cruise that lasts two hours. The boat departs the marina about 90 minutes before sunset and cruises along Shell Island and Panama City Beach.

The charter also has special event cruises like watching the Fourth of July fireworks and the Christmas boat light parade.

Charter services are available every other Friday and every Saturday and Sunday and holidays. The sunset cruises are offered Monday through Friday. For more information or to book the charter, contact the marina at 283-3059.



**P.J. Sykes, left, captain of Gulf Pro Charters, helps Shawn Davis, 325th MXG contractor, hold up the 53 pound gag grouper he caught while fishing with the charter.**

# Tyndall member helps provide companions for disabled



Courtesy photo

**A canine companion helps out his master by pulling a door open for her. Ms. Kimmit raises dogs like these so the canines can go on to help out someone in need.**

**SENIOR AIRMAN SARAH MCDOWELL**  
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

For people with certain disabilities, saying their canine was their best friend would be an understatement. Saying they are their eyes, ears, hands or feet might be the truth.

People with certain disabilities need a constant companion to help them do certain tasks, such as pulling a wheelchair, retrieving dropped

objects, opening doors and drawers and flipping switches for lights or automatic doors. One Tyndall member has chosen to raise dogs for that task.

Anne Kimmit from the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency has become a part of Canine Companions for Independence by fostering and raising these puppies until they are the age they need to be to be

trained. She is currently raising her sixth pup.

"I am responsible for teaching the puppy nice house manners such as not jumping on the furniture, sitting to be greeted and basic obedience," Ms. Kimmit said. "We teach simple commands like sit, stay, down, wait, off, jump, shake and speak. When the pup is returned to CCI at about 16 months of age, they teach the more advanced commands the pup will need to help a person with a wheelchair disability. We also take the puppy out in public a lot so it is exposed to a lot of different environments."

The biggest challenge when raising a CCI pup is potty training, she says.

"It involves a lot of middle of the night trips outside," Ms. Kimmit said. "But the CCI pups are very smart and catch on quickly, so it doesn't last too long."

All of this training happens so the canine will be ready for its eventual owner, someone with a disability, who requires a constant companion.

According to the CCI Web site, "Service Dogs enhance independence for people with disabilities. They do this by reducing reliance on other people to perform tasks that they have difficulty performing themselves."

The dogs begin their journey when they are born in the homes of volunteer breeders and caretakers. When the puppies are two-months old, they

are taken to the Santa Rosa, Calif., Schulz campus that houses a full-time veterinary staff and kennel care staff. Following examination and vaccination, the pups are placed in the homes of volunteer puppy raisers, like Ms. Kimmit, through one of CCI's five regional centers.

The dogs are returned to their regional centers at approximately 14-months old and begin a six- to nine-month program of advanced training. They are fully trained and introduced to the people who may become their partners.

The training of the disabled person with a CCI dog is called Team Training, and lasts for two very full weeks. At the end of the training, a public graduation ceremony takes place marking the beginning of a long-term relationship between the person and their dog, and between the team and CCI. Graduates remain in touch with CCI through regular follow-up programs, workshops and reunions, according to the Web site.

"For me, this program is a way to give something back," Ms. Kimmit said. "I like helping other people and I like training dogs, so this is a good activity for me. Raising pups became my cure for 'empty nest' syndrome when my son went off to college, too. CCI people are some of the nicest people I've ever met and it's really like being a part of a big family."



Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga

## Train the trainer

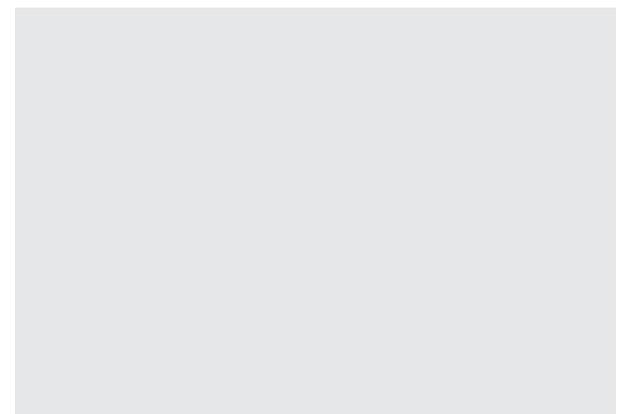
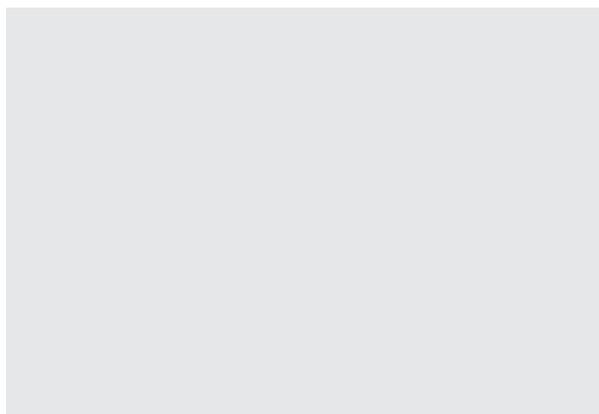
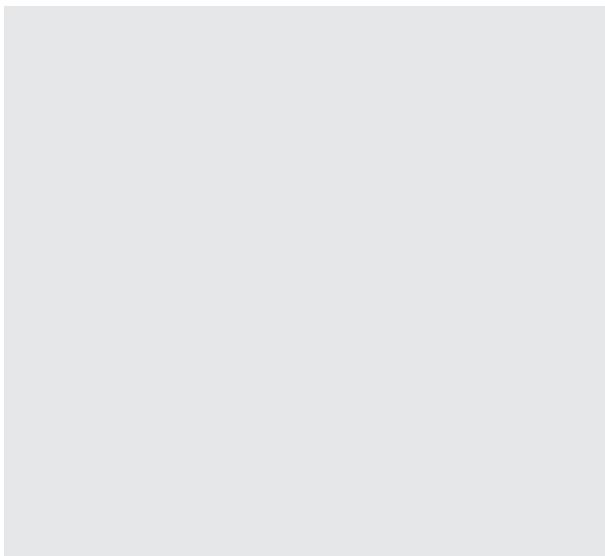
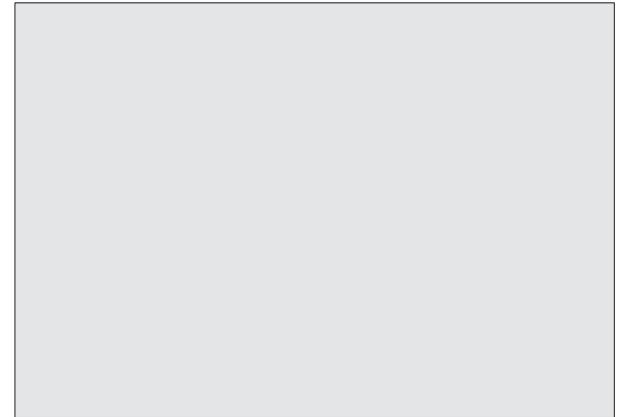
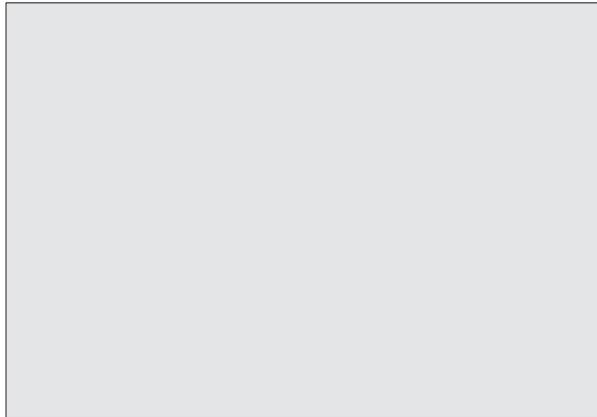
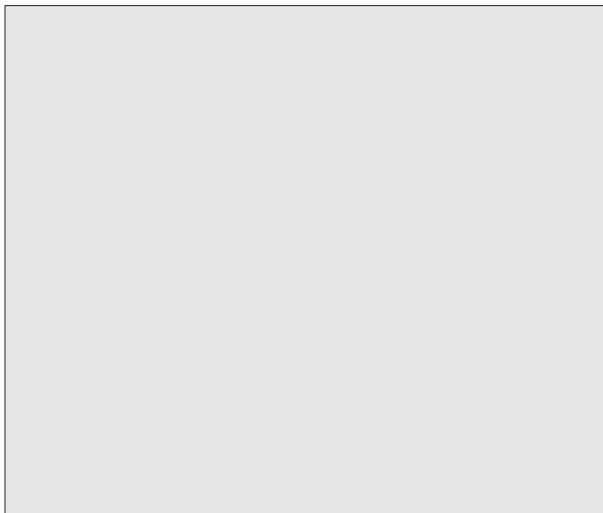
Tyndall supervisors complete the National Security Personnel System "Interactive Supervisory Skills" training sessions June 22. The new human resources management system compensates and rewards employees based on performance and contribution to the mission. It can change many aspects of the current HR system, including how pay is set, pay for performance, job classification, how promotions are handled, and workforce shaping.



Chrissy Cuttita

### Acting out...

Jamie Butler and Amanda Dyke from the Mis-soula Children's theater, tell Youth Center children what they are looking for in their auditions June 26. More than 30 children auditioned and all will be performing tonight in "Robin Hood" at 6:30 tonight at the center.



# Checkertail Salute

## Senior Airman Angel Arias



Staff Sgt. Stacey Haga

**Airman Arias receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Col. Tod Wolters, 325th Fighter Wing commander.**

Senior Airman Angel Arias, 325th Medical Operations Squadron health services management journeyman, manages a patient workload of 6,000 appointments a month. She provided support to more than 55,000 spectators during the Gulf Coast Salute air show. Her expertise and quality care to patients enables the family practice clinic to maintain its proficiency and keep customer satisfaction at 99 percent.

**Duty title:** Health services management journeyman

**Time on station:** One year and one month

**Time in service:** Four years and six months

**Hometown:** Columbus, Ga.

**Hobbies:** Reading books, shopping, traveling

**Goals:** Receive my bachelor's degree in psychology

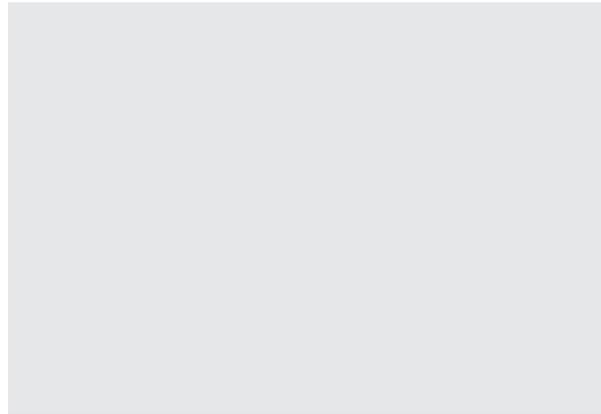
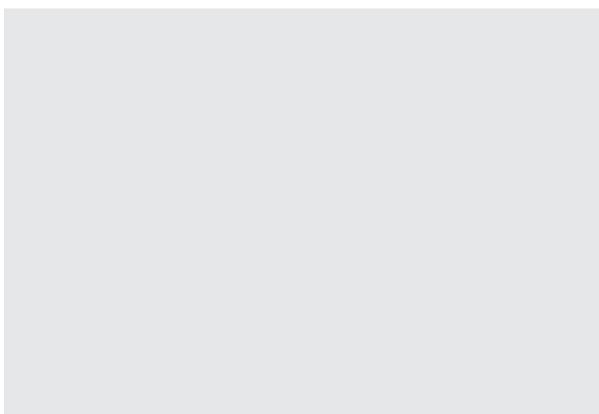
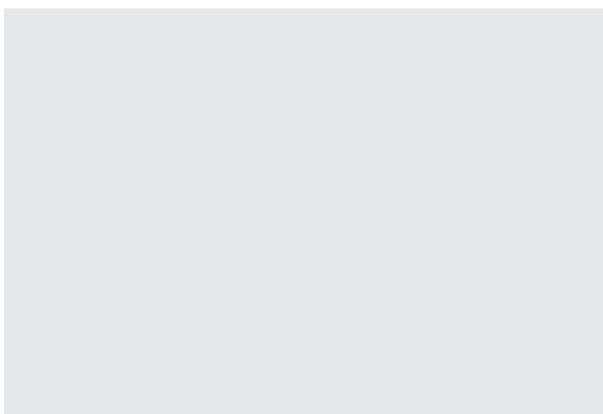
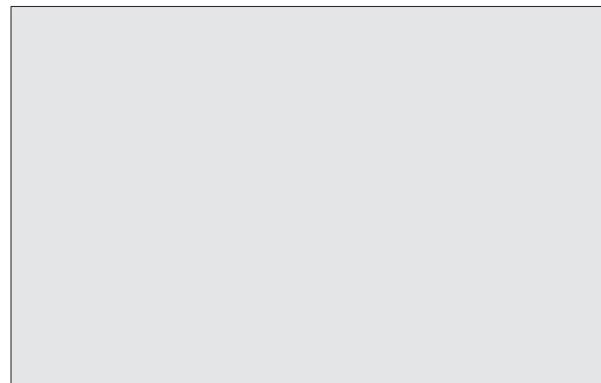
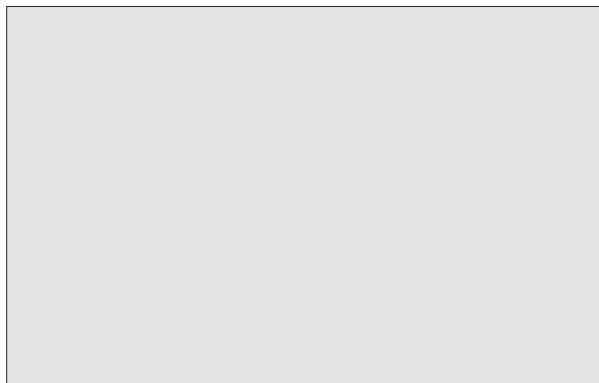
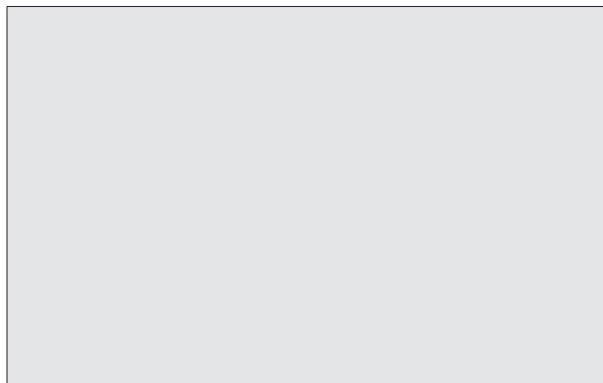
**Favorite thing about Tyndall:** I love the beautiful beaches and I'm close to home

**Favorite movie:** "Barefoot in the Park"

**Favorite book:** "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee

**Proudest moment in the military:** Graduating from Basic Military Training and Airman Leadership School

*The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.*





# Funshine NEWS



www.325thservices.com

☆ Log onto the NEW & IMPROVED Web site ☆

www.325thservices.com



Book your fishing charter today.

Call the Beacon Beach Marina at 283-3059 USCG licensed and insured!

www.gulfprocharters.com

No Federal Endorsement of Sponsor Intended.



## July Pizza Pub Special



Uncharted calzone choice of soft drink or domestic draft - \$5.95 5 p.m - Close

### Pizza Pub Hours of Operations

Monday - Friday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Tuesday and Thursday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 5-9 p.m.  
Every Thursday is "free movie night".  
Wednesday and Friday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 5 - 10 p.m.

For details, call the Pizza Pub 283-3222.



## Ladies' Fishing Tournament

SATURDAY, JULY 15



\$10 ENTRY FEE PER PERSON

CASH PRIZES FOR 1ST, 2ND & 3RD HEAVIEST FISH



- Fish must be weighed by 6pm on the marina club scales
- A member of the fishing committee will act as weigh-master
- Entries also qualify for the Annual Marina Club Fishing Tournament
- In the event of inclement weather or seas preclude safe boating on the tournament date, the tournament will be re-scheduled at the discretion of the fishing committee.

For details call 283-3059



### Attention Team Tyndall: Place a free classified ad in the Gulf Defender

Military classified ads are placed in the Gulf Defender on a space available basis. Ads must be for a one-time sale of personal goods and should include a complete description, 30 words or less, of item being sold. Forms must be turned in by 2 p.m. Thursday for publication in the following Friday's Gulf Defender. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 445 Suwannee Rd. Ste. 129, Tyndall AFB, FL 32403, or faxed to 283-3225. Ads can also be sent in by e-mail to checkertailmarket@tyndall.af.mil.

Rank/Name \_\_\_\_\_

Unit/Office Symbol \_\_\_\_\_

Duty Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Item description (One ad per form)

(30 words or less)

### We value your opinion!

Take a couple of minutes to give us your thoughts on how we can make the Gulf Defender better:

Did the front page grab your attention? Yes  No

Do you feel there is a good mix of local, command and Air Force-level news? Yes  No

Do the photos encourage you to read accompanied articles? Yes  No

Is the Gulf Defender easy to read and follow? Yes  No

What did you find most interesting in this week's paper? \_\_\_\_\_

If you could change one thing in the paper, what would it be? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



Courtesy photo

## Snowy on the beach

**The Snowy Plover, an endangered species, makes its home on the sand dunes on Tyndall beach. Natural resources reminds Tyndall Airmen to not walk on the dunes or bring pets onto the beach. Please use designated walkways to get to the beaches and keep our wildlife safe.**

## New prescription policy

Effective immediately, Tricare beneficiaries with other health insurance no longer have to file paper claims for prescriptions filled at most retail pharmacies. Retail pharmacists can immediately submit electronic claims to Tricare when a beneficiary purchases medications.

“It is a great example of how collaboration with our pharmacy contractor significantly enhances our pharmacy program,” said Army Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director, Tricare Management Activity. “This new process will significantly reduce the hassle factor for our beneficiaries.”

Beneficiaries may still submit paper claims from pharmacies that do not yet participate in this new system.

Previously, Tricare paid claims for beneficiaries with other health insurance through a manual process. Tricare required the beneficiary to mail a claim form and their receipt to Express Scripts Inc., the pharmacy contractor.

The new process allows a pharmacy to receive Tricare’s payment before requesting a co-payment from the beneficiary. In many instances, the beneficiary can leave the pharmacy with lesser out-of-pocket expenses and no requirement to file a claim.

*(Courtesy of Tricare)*

